

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this Application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled).
2. (Canceled).
3. (Canceled).
4. (Canceled).
5. (Canceled).
6. (Canceled).
7. (Canceled).
8. (Canceled).
9. (Canceled).
10. (Canceled).
11. (Canceled).
12. (Canceled).
13. (Canceled).
14. (Canceled).
15. (Canceled).
16. (Canceled).
17. (Canceled).
18. (Canceled).
19. (Canceled).
20. (Canceled).
21. (Canceled).
22. (Canceled).
23. (Currently amended) A ~~hair-straightening~~ formulation comprising an alkanolic acid, ~~and an enzyme, and a gelling agent, wherein said formulation, when applied to hair, causes the hair to become straightened.~~

24. (Original) The formulation of claim 23 wherein said alkanolic acid is about 8% to about 40% by weight.

25. (Currently amended) The formulation of claim 23 wherein the enzyme is a selected from the group consisting of amylase, protease, peptidase, lipase, proteinase, endoprotease and aminopeptidase.

26. (Original) The formulation of claim 23 wherein said enzyme is a protease and said protease has endopeptidase activity.

27. (Original) The formulation of claim 23 wherein said enzyme is a protease and said protease has aminopeptidase activities.

28. (Original) The formulation of claim 23 wherein said enzyme is Alcalase® 2.4L protease.

29. (Original) The formulation of claim 23 wherein said enzyme is Flavourzyme® aminopeptidase.

30. (Original) The formulation of claim 23 further comprising a diluent, the diluent comprises water, and comprising about 0.25% to about 30% alkanolic acid by weight and greater than about 40% water by weight.

31. (Currently amended) The formulation of claim 23 further comprising less than 30% of at least one auxiliary component selected from a fragrance, odor masker, conditioner, ~~gelling agent~~, and penetration enhancer.

32. (Currently amended) The formulation of claim 23 in which the alkanolic acid is selected from the group consisting of acetic, methanoic, ~~ethanoic~~, 2-methylbutanoic, propanoic, 2-methylpropanoic, 2,2 dimethylpropanoic, decanoic, octanoic, hex-2-enoic, heptanoic, 6-methylheptanoic, 3-ethylpentanoic, 3-chloropentanoic, 2-hydroxypropanoic, 2-chloro-4-hydroxyhexanoic, hexanedioic, octadecanoic, 4-oxopentanoic, and 6-hydroxy-4-oxonanoic acids.

33. (Currently amended) A formulation according to claim 23 wherein said ~~composition~~ formulation is in the form of a shampoo, liquid, gel, cream, solid, mousse, paste, aerosol, ~~a rinse-off or leave-in or~~ conditioner, ~~the composition is to be applied before or after dyeing, bleaching, permanent waving or hair straightening or a formulation to be applied between two stages of hair straightening.~~

34. (Canceled).
35. (Canceled).
36. (Canceled).
37. (Canceled).
38. (Canceled).
39. (Canceled).
40. (Canceled).
41. (Canceled).
42. (Canceled).
43. (Canceled).
44. (Canceled).
45. (Currently amended) A ~~hair straightening and style maintaining~~ formulation comprising an alkanolic acid, ~~and an enzyme, and a gelling agent, wherein said formulation, when applied to hair, causes the hair to become straightened and contributes to maintaining hair styling.~~
46. (Original) The formulation of claim 45 wherein said alkanolic acid is about 8% to about 40% by weight.
47. (Original) The formulation of claim 45 wherein the enzyme is a selected from the group consisting of amylase, protease, peptidase, lipase, proteinase, endoprotease and aminopeptidase.
48. (Original) The formulation of claim 45 wherein said enzyme is a protease and said protease has endopeptidase activity.
49. (Original) The formulation of claim 45 wherein said enzyme is a protease and said protease has aminopeptidase activities.
50. (Original) The formulation of claim 45 wherein said enzyme is Alcalase® 2.4L protease.
51. (Original) The formulation of claim 45 wherein said enzyme is Flavourzyme® aminopeptidase.

52. (Original) The formulation of claim 45 further comprising a diluent, the diluent comprises water, and comprising about 0.25% to about 30% alkanoic acid and greater than about 40% water by weight.

53. (Currently amended) The formulation of claim 45 further comprising less than 30% of at least one auxillary component selected from a fragrance, odor masker, conditioner, ~~gelling agent~~, and penetration enhancer.

54. (Currently amended) The formulation of claim 45 in which the alkanoic acid is selected from the group consisting of acetic, methanoic, ~~ethanoic~~, 2-methylbutanoic, propanoic, 2-methylpropanoic, 2,2 dimethylpropanoic, decanoic, octanoic, hex-2-enoic, heptanoic, 6-methylheptanoic, 3-ethylpentanoic, 3-chloropentanoic, 2-hydroxypropanoic, 2-chloro-4-hydroxyhexanoic, hexanedioic, octadecanoic, 4-oxopentanoic, and 6-hydroxy-4-oxonanoic acids.

55. (Original) The formulation of claim 45 in which the alkanoic acid is acetic acid.

56. (Currently amended) A formulation according to claim 45 wherein said ~~composition~~ formulation is in the form of a shampoo, liquid, gel, cream, solid, mousse, paste, aerosol, ~~a rinse-off or leave-in or~~ conditioner, ~~the composition is to be applied before or after dyeing, bleaching, permanent waving or hair straightening or a formulation to be applied between two stages of hair straightening.~~

57-79. (Canceled).